



THE RECORDER - 1931-1940

Toronto Bible College

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Recorder

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Alumni Plans

The growth and progress of the work of our Alumni Association during the past year have been matters of great encouragement to us all, but we believe that the most glowing chapters in its history are to be written during the next twelve months.

During the past year, our secretary has been striving, by means of circular letters, to arouse our great host of Alumni members throughout the world to a more active interest in the work of the Association, and the Executive has endeavored to solidify their financial support of their Alma Mater, by designating October as "Alumni Month". We are gratified to report that during last October we received from Alumni members, who are those most familiar with the great work carried on by Toronto Bible College, the sum of \$191.10, and during the present College year their donations have totalled \$580.89. This is a fine advance on past records.

But many of the members have been unable to share in our annual reunions. They have missed the fellowship and the conferences and the many good things which we who abide near the College so greatly enjoy. These members will rejoice to learn that at our last Executive meeting plans were made to organize Alumni groups, first throughout Ontario, later throughout Canada, and finally throughout the whole world. The College Faculty are co-operating with your Executive in this matter, and representatives of the Faculty and of the Executive will visit Alumni groups in central Ontario districts during the coming summer months. We already have an invitation from a group in Kitchener to hold our first conference there, in May.

It is suggested that these reunions begin with a luncheon on the Friday afternoon or evening following the arrival of the Committee, after which there will be a general conference. On

Saturday evening, Principal McNicol, if possible, will share with the group some of his rich experiences in the Holy Land, or a member of the Faculty may give an address on the work of the College, with illustrated slides which are now being prepared. And on the subsequent Sunday morning, our Visitation Committee will be prepared to take charge of a church service in the district in which the reunion is held. Contemporaneously with

this activity outside Toronto, a personal visitation campaign is to be carried on in this city, by members of the Association.

We are looking forward to a time of great inspiration and blessing during the coming months, and we suggest that members who would welcome a visit from our Committee get in touch with the Alumni Secretary at an early date.

S.L.

A Testimony

Based on Personal Experience and Observation, without Discussion and with Little Elaboration
By C. M. Capeland

(This striking and significant testimony was found among the papers of our late Vice-President after his death. It is all the more valuable because of the long life of Christian experience and active service out of which it comes.)

I wish to testify:—

1. *To the Reality of God.*

Looking back on seventy-five years, I am able to recognize His hand and understand and appreciate His ways as I was not able always to do at the time. That God has been with me in pain, in preparation, in direction, in leading, in providing, and in all matters great and small, there is not the slightest doubt. There is no other satisfactory or sufficient explanation of my life. I would say, however, that there are really no small matters. What have sometimes appeared such have often been the opening to greatest possibilities and largest opportunities. Even apparent failure (yes, the fading of dreams and the blasting of hopes) has more than once been the door to success and realization; and defeat, the precursor of victory. God sometimes withholds the good in order to bestow the best.

True, my neglect, waywardness, disobedience, "secret faults" and "presumptuous sins" have only too often

come between me and my God and sadly interfered with our communion and with my high privilege in it. But, in spite of *my* failure, *God* has not failed.

2. *To the Fact of Christ.*

To this wonderful revelation and interpretation of God, in what He was, in what He did, and in what He said; to the great and sufficient salvation He has provided; to the perfect example He has given; to the life we may have and live in Him; to His understanding, sympathy, patience and friendship—all of which may be included in the one word, love; to the inexhaustible reservoir we have in Him for the supply of every need.—(Phil. 4:19, R.V.)

3. *To the Ministry of the Holy Spirit.*

The Father's all-inclusive gift—who guides into truth (John 16:13); endues with power (Acts 1:8); produces, in the lives of men, "love, joy, peace," (Gal. 5:22-24); imparts light, courage, wisdom; who abides with us forever, "dividing (distributing) to each one (gifts) severally even as He will".—(1 Cor. 12:11 and context R.V.)

4. *To the Worth of the Word.*

The Word of God is our spiritual food. From it we derive strength, and by meditating upon and obeying it

we grow; it points the way and illumines it; it is the Christian's chart and manual through which God makes known His will and gives His message, reveals His plan and the method by which it is to be carried out; it is the great offensive and defensive weapon of the soldiers of Jesus Christ; it is the one reliable spiritual pharmacopoeia; it is the channel of God's comfort through which we obtain wisdom and understanding. To profit by it one must search, meditate, obey. This involves time and labour, but I want to testify that it is eminently worth while. It is indispensable—it relates to every relationship and every activity of life.

5. *To the Supremacy of the Spiritual.*

Material things have a place, an important place, in life, but do not satisfy—in the nature of things cannot do so; they do not endure; have not the power most needed by the world and by individuals today and always. This is being demonstrated before our very eyes at the present time in a way that is most convincing. The great forces are spiritual; the great realities are spiritual; the great permanencies are spiritual. The thirst of the soul is satisfied only at spiritual fountains. The spirit is revived and fortified by the currents that flow from the dynamo of the Eternal.

6. *To the Rewards of Service.*

Service, as I conceive it, and as I use the word here, implies friendly attitudes towards, relations with, and beneficent activities for (and it may be in co-operation with) others. It is Altruism in contradistinction to Ego-

ism. The necessity for it is written by the Creator in the construction of human society. It is fundamental. Those attitudes, relations, and activities, must be according to His law, His plan and method, and taken, sustained, devised and carried out in His Spirit in order to insure peace, harmony, permanent progress, and real happiness either for the individual, or for any group or groups of individuals.

7. *To the Value of Faith.*

I have seen timid persons made bold; weak persons made strong; the naturally fearful kept in peace; and those who were excitable made to rest in calmness. I have known well, and been in a position to observe closely, friends in whose daily life faith operated—a living, active faith—not only in what might be thought major matters but in what some would designate as trifles—and it worked. Faith in God, why should it not work? It must be remembered that such faith rests upon the foundation of a supreme desire for God's glory, obedience and submission to His will.

Now, all this does not mean that I have been spared all the troubles, suffering, sorrow, and trying experiences of various kinds. There has been cloud as well as sunshine, storm as well as calm. But our God has been with us to uphold and deliver.

This is my testimony. I might speak of converse with God—the efficacy of prayer—and of many other vital and interesting experiences, but the above must suffice, at least for the present.

The meeting for the presentation of annual reports from the student body will be held in the assembly hall of the College, at 8 p.m. on Thursday, April 26th. The annual Alumni supper for the reception of the Graduating Class will take place at 6 p.m., the same evening. All friends of the College are cordially invited.

The Molesworth Campaign

During the latter days of January and the early days of February, a group of six students had the blessed privilege of serving the Lord in a series of meetings held in St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church at Molesworth, Ont., Rev. A. Leggett, a graduate of T. B. C., being pastor of this active country church.

The group, which was composed of two young ladies and a male quartette, was very representative of the student body, there being in it two third-year students, two second-year students, one first-year student and one student from the preparatory year.

Despite the prevailing weather conditions, which, as everyone knows, were worse than usual this year, and despite the long distance most of the people live from the church, large numbers turned out, eager to hear the gospel of our Lord and Saviour in sermon and in song.

Personal evangelism, rather than the usual type of revival work, was the method followed. We visited about the district, the young ladies going into the homes and talking of God while the dinner was being prepared or the family washing was being done, and the young men getting in touch with the men of the district as their daily tasks were being discharged. Our girls were able by word and by simply living the natural, joyous Christian life with and before the women and girls, to win many to Christ and to lead many to a new surrender and a closer walk with God. They also visited the two schools of the district, and this visitation resulted in one of the teachers, an attractive young lady and a leader of the younger set, giving her life to the Lord, and in causing the other teacher to realize that she had missed many opportunities and to rededicate her life anew to service for Christ.

The men of our group were enabled in like manner to get close to the men, on their own ground, and this was of great assistance in presenting the Gospel and in showing the necessity of living lives worthy of the high calling of a Christian. In one case, a young man about twenty years of age accepted the Lord as Saviour, while working among the horses in a barn. One of our group had seized the opportunity of being alone with this splendid chap while he was about his noonday chores. Again, an Old Country boy of about the same age, the hired man of the home in which one of the group was billeted, having been dealt with while on the farm, came to us after one of the meetings, with face aglow, saying, "It's all right now", and with great joy he endeavoured to bring other young men to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ. We will mention but one more trophy of God's grace, a young man of splendid physique and manly face, who, although still young in years, had sown to the wind. This young man was a leader of the young folk of the whole district—and his leading was not usually in the best direction. He gave his heart to Christ and resolved by the grace of God to "turn about face" and leave behind the things that were gaining such a strong hold upon him. Many similar instances might be given and many cases of re-consecration. The Lord has done great things in Molesworth, whereof we are glad.

A tribute is due Rev. Mr. Leggett and his splendid helpmate (also a T.B.C. graduate), who, together with a few other faithful servants of the Lord, have been working, living and praying constantly for a revival in that district. The Lord answered their prayers in saving precious souls and in separating wholly to Himself some who had been following afar off. In-

deed it was a blessed time of service, especially for those of us from T.B.C.

who had the privilege of serving the Lord in the Molesworth Campaign.

T. E. C.

With the opening of the Fall Term of the College, there was inaugurated a new sphere of practical work for zealous, soul-seeking students—namely, that of organized house-to-house visitation.

This T. E. C. (Toronto Evangelization Campaign) affords an excellent opportunity for putting into practice the lessons learned during the three lectures each day.

One approaches a door in fear and trembling, endeavouring to remember Mr. Hyde's instructions on "how not to be nervous". When the door is opened, one pounce at the person and his character is revealed to some extent, thanks to Dr. Weston's "Psychology". We open the conversation carefully. If the person is at all receptive, Mr. Hyde's "Personal Evangelism" and its well-chosen texts are brought into force. If we discover that we are talking with an Atheist or a Free-Thinker, one who doubts the inspiration of the Scripture, "Biblical Introduction" is helpful. We even attempted to put into practice Mr. Shildrick's teaching, but fortunately the lady of the house was somewhat hard of hearing and none of the neighbours seemed to be at home when we called.

Unfortunately, Mr. Burns' instruction in "Geography" does not include the maze of streets known as "the ward"; and, as yet, nothing in the House Visitation has necessitated the practical use of Dr. Waters' Medical studies—save three colds, and one bruised knee obtained from a fall, not from a hurried, undignified retreat! (We might suggest a class in Rhetoric for the luckless convener, who spends painful hours attempting an article that is interesting, that is of fine literary composition, and that contains a full report of the visitation work).

But without egotism, we can say that the work has exceeded expectation. We looked at the immense task with apprehension. Evangelize Toronto? Impossible! But "there is nothing too hard for Jesus; there is nothing that He cannot do", so we are glad to co-operate with every effort being put forth by churches and missions to bring the Gospel to the homes of this city. Thus it was that, praying ceaselessly for guidance, we launched out into the work. As the work increased, so our vision increased, for "where there is no vision, the people perish." How we thank God for those who also caught the vision, saw the darkened hearts and homes, without the Light of Life, and bore the blessed Name of Jesus from door to door! A large number of homes were visited and many gospels and tracts were distributed.

In the west end of the city, where the visitation work was commenced last fall, the section between Jane Street and Indian Grove was canvassed in seven weeks of fruitful labor. During this time, 5,992 homes were visited, 212 persons were definitely dealt with in regard to their souls' salvation, and 14 persons accepted the Lord Jesus Christ as their personal Saviour. The total number of students doing this work was 132.

On January 17, 1934, work for the last term began, this time in a poorer section of Toronto (where many of us felt quite at home). During the two weeks of renewed labour, 706 homes have been visited, 60 people have been definitely dealt with, 25 Gospels of John have been given out, and two persons (an elderly couple) have accepted the Lord Jesus as Saviour. During this period, 27 students have worked in the cold weather,

glorying in suffering a little for His sake.

With the money given willingly and freely, splendid booklets have been obtained for those professing salvation. The majority have received one of several of Captain Wallis' books, "The New Man", "New Life", "New Girl", "New Boy", etc., and John's Gospel ("His Triumph") was used

as a means of bringing them to a clearer knowledge of the step taken.

How we do thank Him for the privilege of service at home! How we thank Him for the joy of leading souls from darkness into light—from the pool of Bethesda to the pool of Shiloah whose waters "go softly".

D.P.

Missionary Conference

The third annual Missionary Conference, held from January 19th to 21st, was attended by a greater number of students and friends than in any previous year. The programme followed the same general outline as in former years, with this difference, that fields formerly receiving little attention were this year given a more

prominent place on the programme. Principal McNicol gave the message at the Sunday morning service, contrasting the things that pass with the things that remain. At the closing meeting, on Sunday evening, a number of students indicated their decision of seeking God's will in reference to their future service.

An Apostolic Ministry

Mr. Serge Constantinoff was a young lawyer in St. Petersburg (now Leningrad) when the Russian revolution broke out in 1917 and drove him into exile from his native land. He finally came to Toronto where he saw the light of the gospel as he had not seen it in the Orthodox Greek Church of Russia. He took the Bible College course, graduated in 1931, and went back to Europe in order, if possible, to reach his fellow countrymen with the gospel. He has been in Spain and France, and is now in Yugoslavia, ever moving nearer to the Russian border. On our way to Palestine last March our boat stopped for a day at Marseilles and he came over from Nice to see us. He was supporting himself then by his pen and by translation work, in order that he might minister to a group of Russians he found in that city.

The following extract from a letter received from him just before Christmas will show something of the Pauline spirit of the man:—

"A few months ago I left Nice for

the Balkan States. I was able to manage my way. Now am working here. It is not very easy. About ten thousand Russians here. Most of them obstinately orthodox; minority indifferent; and some boldness is required indeed to make known "the mystery of the gospel", to bring people to understand the way. I am taking every opportunity to proclaim the truth, and am very happy. Always go on with my study. And I do thank my Lord always for that good place over there, 16 Spadina Road, Toronto, where I was taught the principles of the oracles of God. God has blessed me indeed. I grow spiritually, doing my best to keep fit physically and mentally. I press on toward the goal.

"Am staying here in a poor Russian hostel: four rooms with fourteen beds therein. When the house is packed, not very comfortable then. Not many conveniences. In my room there are three beds. Often only two occupied. And I am glad that my room-mate, a disabled Russian army officer, is not afraid to have the win-

dow open all the night, so I do not have to part with my habit of enjoying the fresh air. Then another thing: I have been given here a small table and a small book-case beside my bed. This is by the way of exception. Nobody else has something like that, so I am really occupying the whole half of the room, all to myself. And underneath the bed there is plenty of room for my suitcases and clothes. Isn't that splendid?

"During the daytime people are mostly out, but evening brings all home", as I think they say in Scot-

land. Then we are having in a common dining room a tea—everybody with his own teapot and his own sandwiches, according to one's taste and means. And then usually in a small group I begin to reason with them from the Scriptures. Questions are asked, and answered to the best of my ability and knowledge. Sometimes a very hot discussion takes place up to that late hour, when it is to be discontinued and the meeting adjourned, as the dining room is to be converted for the night into caretaker's bedroom. All my day is occupied."

J. McN.

News of T. B. C. Family

A daughter (Joanne Elizabeth) was born on December 1st to Dr. and Mrs. J. H. Downing (Stoffelena Hoogstad '26).

A daughter (Carolyn Joyce) was born on December 12th, in Africa, to Mr. and Mrs. Orville Thamer (Ethel Neale '30).

A son was born in Toronto, on January 19th, to Mr. and Mrs. S. H. Austing (Norma Manning '29).

Percy Moore, who attended the College during the session of 1929-30 and is now in China under the China Inland Mission, was married in Shanghai on Jan. 9th, to Miss Amy M. Weir.

Mary Suttie ('32) and Jack Percy ('32) were married at Minna, Nigeria, on January 13th. George Worling ('33) was best man and Mary Anderson was bridesmaid. Rev. John Hall, whose wife (Maud Whan) graduated from the College in 1916, officiated. After a month's rest Mr. and Mrs. Percy will take up work at Kuta amongst the Gbari Tribe.

On January 23rd, at Knox Church, Toronto, by Rev. Dr. J. G. Inkster,

assisted by Rev. Dr. A. B. Winchester, Irene Cowan ('28) was married to Rev. P. McK. Sampson, minister of the Presbyterian Church at Athelstan, Quebec.

We record with deep sorrow the death of Miss Emma Campbell ('33), which occurred after a short illness, on Feb. 11th. Miss Campbell was an active volunteer worker in the Presbyterian Church in Toronto and had fitted herself for more efficient service by taking the full Bible College course. She was respected and beloved by all who knew her.

Joseph McDermott ('22) M.A., B. D., was ordained in Marsh Street Baptist Church, Ridgetown, Ontario, on December 5th, by a Council of Baptist Churches of the Western Association. Rev. Alfred Burgess ('15) gave the charge to the candidate. Rev. Mr. McDermott is the pastor of the Baptist Church at Ridgetown.

Rev. Cecil K. Dolby ('22) is now pastor of the Baptist churches at Thessalon and Bruce Mines.

Lucy Brabeau, who was a student in

The annual Communion Service of the College will be held in the Assembly Hall on Sunday morning, April 22nd, at 11 o'clock. Friends of the College are cordially invited to attend.

the College in the session of 1922-1923 and who is now living in Algonac, Michigan, paid a visit to the school recently.

Mr. Victor Veary ('23), of the Sudan United Mission, was ordained by a council of the Independent Baptist Churches on Jan. 9th, in Pape Avenue Baptist Church, Toronto. Rev. J. F. Holliday ('21) B.A., preached the ordination sermon and Rev. Glen Wardell ('13) offered the ordination prayer. Rev. and Mrs. Veary, who had been home on furlough since last summer, sailed the week afterwards for their field of service in French Equatorial Africa.

Aubrey Hunt ('27) is carrying on a Bible School for native workers—a sort of branch of the T. B. C.—at Igbaja, in Nigeria, under the Sudan Interior Mission. The first term was completed last fall, and of it he writes: "The Evangelistic Department of the school is a very important feature. The hundreds of towns and villages in this district make an ideal field for this work, and every week-end the young men go out in all directions on foot and by bicycle preaching the Word. The Gospel was preached some 800 times in one hundred different towns during the past term, within a radius of about thirty miles."

Miss Kathleen McGarrrie ('30) has been accepted for service by the Evangelical Union of South America.

David W. Hanna ('31) has been appointed to work among the Indians in the Boys' Boarding School at Muncey, Ont. He is serving under the United Church of Canada.

Miss Nellie Horne ('33) sailed for Brazil on January 25th, under the Evangelical Union of South America.

Fred G. Kreick ('33) has been accepted by the Evangelical Union of South America for work among the

Amazonian Tribes of Indians. At present he is in charge of his home church at Denzil, Sask. He expects to leave shortly for South America.

Tom Devers, president of class '33, has been accepted for work in Africa, under the Sudan Interior Mission.

Robert Simpson ('32), Doris Trout ('34), Bertha Belch ('32), have been appointed to work in the Belgian Congo under the Women's Board of the Regular Baptist Church of Ontario and Quebec. Mr. Simpson is at present at the National Bible Institute, New York, where he is taking a special medical course.

George Anderson ('34) is pursuing a medical course at National Bible Institute, New York, prior to his going to Africa as a missionary under the Sudan Interior Mission.

Albert W. Motchman ('34) has been accepted as a missionary with the Faith Mission Pilgrims. He is to engage in the work of rural evangelism. Recently he completed a six weeks' tour of the Niagara Peninsula and reports that many accepted Christ, especially young men and young women.

At a recent meeting of the Executive Committee of the Alumni Association, it was unanimously decided to hold the annual Alumni conference in the autumn on the opening day of the College session. The conference last fall was so successful that the committee felt it wise to take this action.

The annual picnic of the Alumni Association will be held on Saturday, June 16th at 2 p.m. in Sherwood Park, Toronto. This is the park in which the picnic was held last year. We hope that many friends from out of town will plan to be present.

The closing exercises of the fortieth session will be held in Massey Hall, on Friday evening, April 27th, at 8 o'clock. Doors open at 7 p.m.









